



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

West Wolds U3A

For Market Rasen and Surrounding Villages

Archives

2002

Volume 1



Sue Ellis's Walk - 2 Jan 2002 - Grasby/Searby Top

All the latest news from our area

—AROUND— the Clubs—

If you would like your club news printed in this weekly feature send your reports to:
The Editor, Waverley Court, Market Rasen, Lincs LN8 3EH

U3A groups coming out of hibernation

THOSE of Market Rasen's West Wolds U3A interest groups that decided to keep in line with the current government's 'vision' of deciding to take a tremendously prolonged break over Christmas are now back in business again.

The Armchair Travel Group are off again on their travels and the Gardening Group are coming out of hibernation. The Limes Hotel is the base again for the Bridge Group, the Local History Group,

the Family History Group and the Flower Arranging Group. Our thanks to The Limes for their help and hospitality in providing accommodation for our larger groups.

Our thanks too to Lincolnshire Library Service for providing the multiple copies that the Reading Group now read and compare notes on each month.

Jo Howard has started a Beginner's German Group. The Intermediate German Group is back at work,

following heart problems for two of its students (Ja! Vee hef vays of making you ill!!) At the invitation of Marthe Tonge of Louth U3A, the German Group visited Louth for Christmas Carols followed by lunch at the Miller's Daughter.

An exploratory meeting has been held to determine 'the way forward' in starting a Geology Group. Twelve members attended (an encouraging number for any new group). Market Rasen's own consultant geologist, Tim Langdale-

Smith, came along to guide us. As well as Tim, Steve Thompson, geologist at Scunthorpe Museum, and Paul Hildreth, geologist and teacher from Brigg, are willing to give invaluable help. We feel quite flattered at finding such ready help from these professionals. It is up to us now to live up to their faith in us.

With about 20 interest groups to choose from, there is something taking place, in the daytime, every weekday of the month. Details of the interest

groups, walks and outing can be found on the display tables at the back of the Festival Hall every second Thursday of the month at 10am, when West Wolds U3A hold their monthly meetings. The speaker tomorrow - Valentine Day February 14 - is Clifford Jukes. The subject is 'Exploring the Lincolnshire Wolds'. Visitors are always welcome - but beware being in the U3A! catching. You may very well feel the urge to join us.

Feb 13 2002

Wonderful Wolds

CLIFFORD Jukes entertained the February meeting of the West Wolds U3A to a talk aided by slides that took members on several walks over the Lincolnshire Wolds. Because the Wolds cover such a vast area, he chose to talk about the sparsely settled rolling hills between the Humber and Louth. These chalk hills, so easily accessible to walkers, provide areas of outstanding natural beauty and wonderful vistas that are rich in a wide variety of flora and fauna. They have been farmed for over 1000 years and rise to 150 metres; the highest ground between Yorkshire and Kent.

A warm tropical sea covered the underlying rock over a hundred million years ago. As the sea receded, a chalk layer was formed and it is possible to find interesting fossils of long since extinct sea creatures in certain areas. Erosion during the glacial period presents us now with the gentle curves of the Wolds that slope gradually to the eastern side with much steeper cliffs to the West.

Amongst the many interesting plants that Clifford showed was the tiny flower, sparsely distributed and difficult to find in Lincolnshire, commonly known as the 'Town Hall Clock'. Its name is derived from its appearance as it has five green flower faces each with yellow stamens. Then there are the Snowdrops, which flower prolifically in the Binbrook and North Thoresby area and are characteristic of the Wolds, however they are not considered to be native to Britain and it was interesting to learn that it is believed they were planted some 400 years ago having been brought back here by monks travelling from Italy in the Middle Ages. Another firm favourite, the primrose, native to this area is to be found happily

flowering in the relative shelter of the dykes - escapees of agricultural sprays.

The land around Nettleton produces a variety of plants from the wetland Toadflax to the dry land plants such as Harebells. It also sustains lots of bird life such as kestrels and owls. The chalk in this locality is both red and white - the red being stained by the iron that, up to 1969, was mined here.

Another interesting slide was that of the Victorian farming village of Wold Newton where the old estate houses still retain the names of the occupations of the workers who lived there, eg Ploughman's Cottage, Foreman's Cottage.

We were also treated to slides of several churches. The church of St Mary, Claxby, illustrates the sense of humour of the stonemason who carved 'face pulling gargoyles' - one of a man obviously suffering from toothache! By the way, did you know that Claxby, a name of Viking origin is derived from the two words 'clacken' and 'by' which, literally translated, means 'the village of the people who talk a lot'. Is it really true that the people of Claxby are gossips!?

Mr Juke's splendid talk and wonderful slides depicting creatures, plants and flowers in their natural habitat, spectacular views, isolated farmsteads, towers and beacons has not only increased our knowledge of what lies around us, but has also awakened us to the fact that 'going for a walk' is not just about exercise and fresh air. He showed us HOW to observe. Observation of the smallest detail is the key to increased enjoyment.

The next meeting of the West Wolds U3A is on March 14 at the Festival Hall, Market Rasen. The speaker, Nigel Vincent will give a talk on 'Impressionists'.



wed 6 March 2002

Local History Visit to St Mary's Church, HAINTON

on

Monday

18th March 2002

with

Rev. & Mrs

Ian Partridge

+

Mrs. Joyce Ward

Church Warden

Lunch

at "Heneage Arms"

HAINTON



Rev Ian Partridge



Report on the Heneage monuments, St Mary's Church, Hainton.

A visit was arranged to discuss the monuments at Hainton on Friday 9th June 2000. Present were members of the North Lindsey NADFAS Church Recorders, Dr Adam White of the Church Monuments Society, Mr James Heneage, and Dr John Lord of de Montfort University and the Lincoln Diocesan Advisory Committee.

Three monuments are situated in the chancel.

- 1) John Heneage d.1530 a tomb chest of Purbeck marble with a 19th century patinated brass
- 2) Frances Heneage d.1807 a wall tablet with a relief of the apotheosis of Mrs Heneage, and of children garlanding an urn. Signed by John Bacon Junior.
- 3) G.R. Heneage d.1833 a wall tablet with draped urn signed by S. Manning.

Most other monuments are in the Heneage chapel to the north of the chancel.

- 1) John Heneage and wife d.1435 a brass set into the floor, probably reset.
- 2) John Heneage and wife d.1559 & 1587 - an altar type tomb with kneeling effigies on a freestone architecture. Of local (possibly York) workmanship.
- 3) Sir George Heneage d.1595 - a free standing tomb with recumbent effigy, all of alabaster, painted.
- 4) Sir William Heneage and wives, d.1610 - an altar type tomb of alabaster with kneeling figures and children below. Probably Southwark school work.
- 5) Three Sir George Heneages. last one d.1692 - a wall tablet of white marble with garlands and attributes of death. Possibly by William Stanton or James Hardy
- 6) George Heneage and his two wives d.1731 (but erected slightly later). The busts of all three signed, two by Bertuccini, one CB. The busts against an architecture with baldacchino.
- 7) George, Thomas and George Fieschi Heneage d.1753, 1740 & 1782 Plain architectural tablet of early 19th century signed by Bacon and Manning.
- 8) Frances Heneage d.1842 - wall monument with urn and putti signed by Manning.
- 9) George Fieschi Heneage d.1864 - wall tablet with mourning girl by an urn signed by Underwood.
- 10) Frederick Heneage d.1881 - minor Grecian style wall tablet

ii) Charles Heneage d. 1901 - a similar minor tablet.

In the north aisle

i) Francisca Jenkinson d. 1732 - a marble cartouche tablet.

The importance of these memorials lies more in their ensemble as a whole, showing one family's consistent feel for commemoration from the 15th to the 20th century. Within this group there are several of note, though.

The tomb to Frances Heneage d. 1804 is a particularly fine example of romantic sensibility within the work of John Bacon Junior. The recumbant effigy of Sir George, d. 1595 is a fine example of its type, as is that of c. 1610 to Sir William Heneage and his wives. The latter includes unusual reliefs of Adam and Eve, and the Ascension which may reflect the Heneage's Catholicism. The tablet of the 17th century to the three Georges is an excellent example of its type. Unique in Britain is the work of the 1730s by Bertuccini, though more research is needed on this Genoese sculptor. Finally Samuel Manning's tablet of 1842 to Frances Heneage has some of his most exquisite carving.

The condition of the monuments is at present stable, but problems are looming and action now will save much work and expense in the future.

Most are dirty and would benefit from cleaning.
Four memorials have problems, mostly minor.

1) John Heneage and wife. d. 1559 & 1584.

This is situated in the north west corner of the chapel against very damp walls. The memorial is in consequence damp, and needs to be dried (and monitored as it dries to check on efflorescence of soluble salts which could cause stone decay). Some mortar joints are beginning to show expansion.

2) Sir George Heneage d. 1595.

The knight's feet are detached and need repair, as too does the dog's head. A corner of the sill to the tomb chest is loose. There have also been insensitive repairs (some in resin) to the tomb chest.

3) Three George Heneages, 17th century.

The wooden flames to the urns are broken

and detached.

4) Francisca Jenkinson d. 1732.

The whole cartouche may be beginning to move away from the wall.

The large rust mark on the 'Bertuccini' tomb is no larger than in 1981, according to a comparison with my photo of them. This would indicate some stability within that monument.

The danger for the tombs is encroachment of damp. The church as a whole feels damp and the north wall is particularly so. Plaster is decaying and powdering off the walls.

The causes are several:

- a) Downpipes and gutters may be blocked. The drains need to be free-running, and the French drain and soakaways should be made to be more efficient.
- b) The lead flashing between the chapel and the north aisle roof may be leaking. This could be a major cause of the damp in the north west corner of the chapel.
- c) Hard cement render to the lower parts of the aisle and chapel walls (coupled with repairs in Portland cement) is driving damp up the walls which then causes decay to the lime plaster.
What might be 19th century oil paint on this render is probably not helping. The problem here is is this an historic paint? If it is, is it worthy of retention? English Heritage might advise.
- d) Patch repairs of hygroscopic gypsum plaster do not help.

The priority is to make the church dry and to remove the causes of damp.

Then the minor repairs may be made to the monuments. I can advise on conservators.

A watching brief should be undertaken to monitor the drying out of the monuments. I shall re-visit next spring.

When dry a thorough clean of the monuments would be worthwhile.

John Lord 14.06.2000